



## 2001 - New Bern, NC District Hazard Mitigation

The North Carolina Division of Forest Resources (DFR) completed an aggressive fire mitigation and prevention program in the New Bern area. The New Bern District includes large blocks of industry, government, and Non-Industrial Private Forest (NIPF) land, with volatile fuels and organic soils, high fire occurrence, and a tremendous population boom in the last decade. As a result, interface hazards have also become an issue. To prevent and mitigate these hazards, the local DFR district created a fire prevention education outreach program. Projects included:

- hazard mitigation burns on Weyerhaeuser and NIPF interface forestland
- Croatan National Forest mechanical removal of volatile fuels threatening the interface
- DFR and its partners completed a news media blitz on the value of prescribed fire, the area's interface risks, and the Firewise program
- DFR and its partners held public meetings to provide a forum for local citizens. Topics included the growing interface risks, the value of prescribed fire, Firewise concepts, and building codes. Several local emergency services personnel and community leaders participated in the meeting.

This project has been successful in reducing the fire danger to interface communities in the area and has educated local citizens about interface fire risks and Firewise concepts. Residents' awareness of and appreciation for prescribed fire was also increased.

For more information contact:  
Robin Carter, North Carolina DFR (919)733-2162 x262  
[robin.carter@ncmail.net](mailto:robin.carter@ncmail.net)

